

KEETLEY

Keetley is 10 miles north of Heber in the heart of Utah's Silver-lead mining district and the 1500 acre Fisher Ranch.

The town of Keetley was built in 1923 on the Fisher Ranch by George A. Fisher.

It is the hub of the community life of the Park Utah and New Park Mining Companies.

Mr. George A. Fisher planned and supervised the building of the town and was the mayor of Keetley until his death in July 1954.

HAILSTONE

The site of Hailstone was settled about 1863 and was named for Stephen Hailstone who established a ranch there. Mr. Hailstone married Emily Davis the daughter of William Davis. Mr. William Davis came directly from Wiltshire, England to Hailstone in 1864 and lived there with his family most of his life. He was the presiding elder of that district, which included the country as far as Keetley, for some years.

Bishop Henry Cluff, Sr., who also presided over the district changed the name from Hailstone to Elkhorn. But the original name was taken back and is used today.

The Davis family still retains residence at Hailstone.

CHAPTER IV

PIONEER LIFE

Wasatch settlers brought to the pioneer struggle very little in the way of material resources. An ox or two, a wagonload of goods, and usually a gun were the items constituting their physical possessions. There were no homes to come to with rugs, furniture, beds, and lights. Nor were there roads, or schools, or church buildings, stores, or a thousand and one other things to which we are accustomed. These had to be built and at the same time crops had to be raised and shelter provided.

Shelter is perhaps a better word than home to describe the first hurried building by a people who had to spend most of their time plowing the land and putting in a crop. A wickiup made of brush, covered with wheat-grass and dirt, or a dugout in a hill—whichever was most expedient—was the common solution.¹

The food was also appropriate to their situation. Elizabeth Fillmore tells how John and Mary Ann Fawcett moved to Midway when there were only five families there: "They lived in a dugout the first year and subsisted on roots, large squirrels, and boiled wheat."²

As soon as the first crops were planted, a number of log cabins rose to replace the dugouts and wickiups. They were to last until the sawmills were built to provide the lumber for frame houses and furniture. These log cabins were chinked with mud and roofed with long grass and dirt. The entire family crowded into the single room with a fireplace in one end and the beds in the other. The beds were built into the wall by running

¹ John Crook, "History of Wasatch County," *op. cit.*, p. 6.

² E. Z. Fillmore, "Biography of John and Mary Fawcett," MSS. (Daughters of Utah Pioneers Historical Collection, Heber City, 1951).